Bud's Copy

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

JULY, 2000

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bud Hughes K4CWG

On Friday, June 23, Field Day 2000 preparation began at the Titusville Well Field #3. On the same day the most welcomed rainstorm undone just about everything that had been accomplished. The 10x20 canopy as well as John's screen room was blown across the Field Day site. Stephanie's sand filled coffee cans intended to be used as anchors were redistributed between the original canopy side and the six foot chain link fence surrounding the well field property. The plastic canopy was draped across the fence as one would hangout the family wash to dry..

This setback did not stop the gang. The canopy was reinstalled, antennas were draped from the water tower to light poles and surrounding trees. The call sign KE4ZPA was the call used at TARC Field Day and thanks to the good antennas and band conditions a lot of contacts were made on voice as well as CW.

The use of BEARS COM11 was great and many people were able to view the unit and see the capabilities of this communication masterpiece. Thanks to Anthony KF4CEB and his daughters and their friends for all the work in getting COM11 to TARC for use. There were many good contacts made from COM11, thanks to Christina, Heather, Anthony Jr. And Sara. I bet you these youngsters will soon be taking their exam for amateur licenses.

Space does not permit the listing of the contributions by the ladies who prepared covered dishes. The multitude of compliments as to the delicious food and desserts says it best. The Saturday evening feast was enjoyed by all in attendance and again thanks to those who worked so hard and attended to make our 2000 Field Day another success. Our thanks to the City of Titusville for the use of the facility in providing another successful emergency training program.

A request has been made for a board of directors meeting. Coordination of this meeting is in progress.

Our condolences are extended to Joe N1PAW and Bert N1OGE and their family in the loss of Joe's mother.

Pike W4EPU and Clara KF4YQL have gone to Texas for the funeral of Pike's brother. Our thoughts are with you and your family in your loss

HELP!!!

Help is needed to construct a building for the 146.775 repeater in North Mims. If you can help, please let either Nick KF4SEK or Kenny KD4HNW know the days and times that you can be of assistance. This repeater will serve the north end of Brevard and the south end of Volusia County.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

JULY BIRTHDAYS

JULY 3 KE4OWJ DAVID BURDICK
JULY 4 KG4FXR LEE ERSKINE
JULY 4 K1TJK THOMAS KELLY
JULY 8 W4NMB HOLLAND STARKEY
JULY 8 WN3DHI ARCHIE SHETLER
JULY 9 KD4JBL WILLIE WILLIAMS
JULY 10 WB9MFJ LARRY CARR
JULY 11 KF4IGN DORIS GIONET
JULY 14 W2TRX WALTER FANTON
JULY 17 KF4IGP JOANNA BLUM
JULY 18 KU4LA JOE TIPTON, SR.
JULY 20 000000 RON DIXON
JULY 21 KC4RUF THOMAS RAC
JULY 23 KT4UD LOENARD ZBIEGIEN
JULY 24 KE4AGH VERN ANDREWS
JULY 25 WA0VED JIM WOODRING
JULY 27 KV4DC ROE WEAVER
JULY 27 KF4KUN SAMUEL DENMAN
JULY 27 AE4CB DAVID HURST
JULY 28 KE4AGM RICHARD LASURE
JULY 28 KF4IGB PAT WIDICK
JULY 29 WA4CUO BILL HOSKINSON
JULY 30 WD8JLT BRIAN SONNENBERG

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION ON HAMFEST SALES TAXES

From 5/00 cyberSKIP

Billy Williams N4UF, President of the North Florida Amateur Radio Society, is dogging the thorny sales tax issue at Florida Hamfests. Several recent hamfests were "raided" by DOR agents disrupting the shows and causing concerns by vendors and tailgaters as to their reporting responsibilities to the DOR.

Williams announced at the April meeting of the North Florida Amateur Radio Society, the Balanced Modulator will file an official inquiry asking for a clarification of the applicability of the Florida sales tax at hamfests and tailgates. The inquiry will ask for answers to six questions. These questions are:

1) Are all sellers at tailgates and hamfests required to register and collect Florida sales tax?
2) Does the "occasional sale" exemption apply? If so, to what extent?
3) Are commercial vendors (usually registered) selling new equipment and individuals selling used equipment considered in the same category with regard to sales tax laws?
4) Are registrations/admissions to hamfests and tailgates taxable? Can tax be avoided by calling such fees donations?
5) Are exhibitor booth and table space taxable? If the sponsor is an IRL chartered 501-c-4, would this affect the answer to this question?
6) Is food and drink for on-premises consumption at such events taxable?

Answers to these questions are necessary in view of conflicting interpretations received from several agents. One agent stated that hamfests and tailgates are considered in the category of "Flea Markets and other Temporary Sales Sites" and are governed by the rules stated in a DOR pamphlet. If so, it appears that everyone selling at hamfests and tailgates must register and collect tax.

At least one DOR agent has hinted that those at some small tailgates might be exempt. Deborah Lusk, KG4ADZ presented one interpretation that she had received from a DOR agent. The agent cited the tax code part that dealt with the

occasional sale exemption and implied that it was applicable to tailgates and possibly even to some aspects of hamfests. Hopefully, this interpretation will stand!

If our questions produce unsatisfactory answers, then we will be able to make proposals to modify the laws or the interpretation of such laws. Petitions could be routed to legislators and administrators. The sales tax laws recognize many exemptions. Based on our public service through ARES and the Neighborhood Ham program, we might have a good case in claiming that used equipment procured at hamfests might be needed to provide lifesaving assistance and thus should be exempt from taxes.

The letter to DOR describes two types of Amateur Radio events. Type A is a single day "tailgate" where vendors sell used ham gear from tables or vehicles in a lot or field along side of a road. A club or group provides space at a nominal charge and each vendor handles his or her own sales.

Type B is a larger one or two-day convention called a "hamfest" where commercial exhibitors sell radio equipment. Individuals also sell used gear such as radio receivers, transmitters, test equipment, etc. from tables provided by the hamfest sponsor for a fee.

PAINT YOUR HOUSE ON LINE
From cyberSKIP 5/00

After you've already painted your home is the wrong time to decide you don't like the colors. So, the folks at Martin Senour Paints have launched an online gadget they call Palette Match, which lets do-it-yourselfers mix, and match colors on a virtual home. A Palette Match session begins with the selection of an interior or exterior scene, then the "painting" is done by selecting colors from a menu. Palette Match automatically pairs complimentary colors for trim and other accents from Martin Senour's own color collections (Frank Lloyd Wright, Painted Ladies and Williamsburg). Users can see what the paints will look like in a (virtually) real-life setting before shelling out for the actual paint. After the perfect colors are selected, the color-mixing details can be printed out in a form ready to present to the local paint store (the one selling Martin Senour paints, of course).

World Wide Web:http://www.martinsenour.com/

ARRL-VEC COMPLETELY CAUGHT UP
From the ARRL Letter

The ARRL-VEC has made it over the restructuring application mountain and down the other side. "We're completely caught up!" ARRL-VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W933, exulted this week. All applications through June 16 receipts that were able to be "routinely processed" were set to be transmitted to the FCC June 22. ARRL-VEC staff members already have begun tackling receipts from this past Monday, June 19.

Jahnke said he anticipated very shortly getting back to a "normal" 10-day wait between test session and FCC license grant. He emphasized that the length of any applicant's wait continues to largely depend on when the test session paperwork arrives at ARRL-VEC.

Fred Maia, W4YI, of the W5YI-VEC reports he's closing in on being current and expects to be there by July 4. "This was the hardest spring period we ever had in our 16 years of doing this", he said. "We're starting to see daylight." As of week's end, W5YI-VEC had processed April and May test sessions and was working on session receipts of June 12.

On the downside, Jahnke says, some applicants could be in for additional delays because of missing or problematic information on their paperwork. Applications are not transmitted to the FCC until

all information is complete and problems resolved, Jahnke said. The same goes for applications where the information provided does not jibe with what's already in the FCC database. He estimated that fewer than 1% of the 25,000 applications filed since January 1 fall into the "problem" category, however.

Among applications in the huge influx since the FCC announced restructuring last December, ARRL-VEC staffers have encountered incomplete or missing items, including element credit, proof of license, Social Security number, and even the applicant's or the volunteer examiners' signatures.

The FCC's Universal Licensing System also has burped on applicants' attempts to upgrade and renew their licenses at the same time. Because of a ULS software problem, combining a renewal with an upgrade - or with an address or a name change, for that matter - will cause the ULS to reject the application altogether, Jahnke explained. As a result, the transactions must be filed separately.

Upgrade applicants whose licenses turn out to be in the two-year renewal grace period also can expect delays. "You need a current license to get your upgrade granted," Jahnke explains, "so the renewal must be filed first, than the upgrade."

Other applicants, unwittingly have stumbled into problems by filing separate applications with the FCC via the ULS. For example, a few individuals with pending upgrade applications in the meantime have applied for and been granted vanity call signs via the ULS. "What happens is the person ends up with another call sign that doesn't match the one on their upgrade application," Jahnke says. He advises applicants either to wait until their upgrades have been processed before applying for a vanity call sign or to let the ARRL-VEC know that they have another application pending via the ULS.

Jahnke advised applicants who attended an April or May ARRL-VEC test session and have not yet found the results of their earned upgrade on the ULS to contact ARRL-VEC by telephone (do not send e-mail) at 860-594-0300. He says the ARRL-VEC still is holding some applications with errors or missing information.

FLORIDA DMV CUTS HAMS SOME SLACK ON LICENSE PLATE FLAP

From cyberSKIP 6/2000

ARRL West Central Florida Section officials say the Florida Division of Motor Vehicles has agreed to comply with that state's Amateur Radio license plate law. Florida DMV Assistant Chief Bureau of Titles and Registrations Gail Christy-Jones says her agency will process all Amateur Radio license plate requests and will recall any plate that conflicts with an FCC-licensed applicant's call sign. ARRL West Central Florida Section Manager Dave Armbrust, AE4MR, called the DMV move "a good first step." Armbrust said, however, that he doesn't agree with the DMV's decision to continue issuing other specialty license plates with alphanumeric combinations that appear to be amateur call signs. West Central Florida Section officials say they will continue efforts to get the State of Florida to reserve the entire Amateur Radio call sign pool exclusively for Amateur Radio plates. For more information, visit the ARRL West Central site:
http://www.wcfarrl.org

HAM RADIO HELPS RESCUE PACIFIC BOATERS

According to a May 14 report in The Honolulu Advertiser, ham radio operators in Hawaii and on Fanning Island in the Republic of Kiribati worked together to help the US Coast Guard rescue a group of teachers adrift in the Pacific. Five Fanning Island teachers were aboard a 26-foot outrigger

canoe on a day-long fishing trip May 10 when the canoe's engine failed, said Lt. Michael Wessel of the Coast Guard Rescue Coordination Center in Hawaii. A relative reported the missing boat to a ham radio operator on Fanning Island who, in turn, reported it to a ham operator in Hawaii. The Hawaii operator reported the missing canoe to the Coast Guard. After coordination with the US Embassy in the Republic of Kiribati (to assure fuel would be available on Easter Island) the Coast Guard dispatched a C-130 from Oahu early May 12. The airplane found the boat at noon. The aircraft crew dropped food and water to the teachers, as well as a radio and beacon. They then contacted the coastal freighter Matangare on Washington Island in Kiribati. The freighter rescued the crew and salvaged the boat on May 13. Thanks to Russell Houlton for sharing this report.

WILLEM VAN TUIJL RELEASED FROM HOSPITAL

Willem van Tuijl, the 13 year-old from the Netherlands wounded by gunfire during an attack by pirates off the coast of Honduras last March, has been released from a Dallas hospital. The Dallas Morning News reports Willem "did wheelies in his wheelchair to celebrate" as he left Our Children's House at Baylor University Medical Center of May 24.

The son of Jacco and Jannie van Tuijl, KH2TD and KH2TE, willem faces another two to three weeks of outpatient care. He is expected to be paralyzed from the waist down as a result of his injuries.

After the pirate attack, the family was aided by Amateur Radio operators who called the Coast Guard and provided medical advice during the family's trip to shore. With the help of a friend, Jacco van Tuijl recently sailed his boat from where it had been moored in Honduras to a slip in Southern Florida. While there, van Tuijl spend a few days with Ed Petzolt, K1LNC, one of the hams who had aided him on the air after the pirate attack. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP was instrumental in getting Willem and his parents transported to Dallas, where the youth could get specialized medical care.

THE ULTIMATE REDNECK JOKES

Martha Stewart's tips for rednecks:

Never take a beer to a job interview.

If you have to vacuum the bed, it is time to change the sheets.

You might be a redneck:
If you go to weddings to get rice for dinner.

If the level in your pool goes down when your neighbor flushes.

If you've ever bathed with flea and tick soap.

If your wheelbarrow breaks and it takes four relative to figure out how to fix it.

If your primary source of income is the pawn shop.

If you see a sign that says "Say No To Crack." And it reminds you to pull up your pants.

If you've ever been too drunk to fish.

If your fish finder cost more than your boat.

If while mowing your yard, you find a car.

If you use the same tree as your dog.

If your wife gets caller I. D. so she can tell which bar you're calling from.

If the keyless entry system for your car is a coat hanger.

ABELL'S ANECDOTES
By Pike W4EPU

THE UNTOLD STORY OF AN APPARENT CLOSE ENCOUNTER WITH THE FLORIDA LOTTERY

John, KE4ZPA was a patient at Parrish Medical Center recovering from a mini stroke. Very early in the morning, the nurse, for some reason or another, had just awakened John from a deep sleep. After the nurse left the room but before John went back to sleep he took his HT from the bedside table and turned it on just in time to hear his XYL, Pat KF4LTY, frantically calling him. Fearing the worst, he immediately responded. Obviously speaking with her teeth tightly clinched together, Pat simply said, "EAT THE TICKETS". After she repeated it several times, John still had absolutely no idea what she was talking about. (What she was trying to tell John was to hide some lottery tickets. As an afterthought she realized that if John would have understood her and obediently 'ate the tickets', the proof would have been destroyed, had they won the lottery.) Dave, NB5EM, always there to help out in any way he can, not knowing any more than John, but seeing that Pat was desperate, offered to help. Then in somewhat of a disappointing tone of voice, Pat simply gave up and said, "OH, NEVER MIND".

John turned off his HT but was unable to go back to sleep. "How much worse can it get?" John thought. "Here I am confined to this hospital bed and my wife at home has apparently completely lost her marbles."

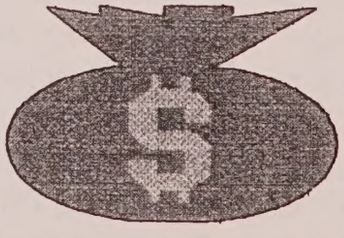
The whole event evolved after Tom McCall, WA4QJK, visited John in the hospital and, instead of giving him a get well card or something, presented him with a couple of lottery tickets. John told Tom that if he won they would split it. John phoned the numbers to Pat who wrote them down on a scrap of paper.

The next morning Pat was reading the numbers in the newspaper. About the same time she saw the same numbers flash on the TV screen. Confusing the numbers in the newspaper (which obviously matched the ones on TV) with the ones she had written on the scrap of paper, Pat thought they had won the lottery. Before she could collect her wits and realize the mistake, she shouted to her son, Mike, "We won the lottery!" The celebration thus began. Mike was hopping around like a pogo stick shouting "Hooray" over and over. Pat said, "Oh boy. Now I can pave the crummy parking lot at the Jaycee building. After they had calmed down a bit, Pat asked Mike, "why are you celebrating? It was I who won the lottery!" Mike said "You said we won!!!"

That is when Pat tried to phone John. But it was too early and the hospital switchboard had not been activated. Being the good HAM she is, Pat went to the ol' reliable two-meters. Also, knowing that every HAM in Central Florida could possibly be monitoring she had to be cryptic with her message to John. In so doing, even John could not decipher it.

Pat then tried to phone Tom to give him the good news. It was just as well that no one answered the phone. It was about that time that Pat realized her mistake. Fortunately she did not have to do much explaining, because no one knew anything except her and Mike.

If there is a moral here, I suppose it would be, "Don't count your chickens (tickets?) before they hatch. 73s es 88s



TREASURERS REPORT

By Becky Lee, KF4HTB

Balance forward from 1999	$4333.03
Deposits Year to Date	2296.35
TOTAL INCOME	**$6629.38**
Expenditures	2439.38
BALANCE AS AT 6/30/00	**$4190.00**

JUNE MINUTES

By Becky, KF4HTB

After the opening ceremonies Shawn from the Jaycees asked the club to once again help with the Fourth of July fireworks,

Pike W4EPU talked about the parade to be held on Sunday prior to the Fourth, and asked for volunteers to help with the parade. (For various reasons, this parade did not take place.)

Bud K4CWG showed the controller for the 97 machine that is to be returned for repair. It was hit by lightening. Also the 91 controller was hit by lightening, but it has been repaired by changing some fuses. The weather receiver will be installed on 97 next month.

Bud also told the club that since Wes has moved out of the area, technical help will be needed. Call Les if you are interested in helping.

Warren, W4CEL warned members using the auto patch to be sure to alert the person they are calling to not use fowl language. Les K4SJC reminded everyone to be sure to identify at the end of a patch call. He also mentioned that a fan was needed at the repeater site.

Anthony KG4CEB announced that he had his weather emergency assignment list.

Club Officers

President: Bud Hughes, K4CWG. 267-3450
V.Pres: Ozzie Osband, N4SCY. 321-LIFTOFF
Sec/Treas: Becky Lee, KF4HTB, 267-9375

Elected Board Members

Ken Denman, KD4HNW. 269-5711
John Renninger, KE4ZPA. 267-9431
Grant Hahne, KF4IGK. 269-6484
Sherry Hughes, KU4ZO. 269-0779

Repeater Custodian Board Members

Les Griner, K4SJC (146.91) 267-1565
Warren Murray, W4CEL (146.97) 638-5476
Dave McLean, WB4SIG (444.15) 267-6181
Larry Carr, WB9MFJ (Packet-Rose Node) 268-4114

Club Information

Meetings: Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1900 hrs. at Jaycee Building

Newsletter Editors: KF4HTB Becky Lee
K4EOS Clyde Lee

Nets: VIP-Thursdays at 1000 hrs. 146.910
Friendship-Thursdays at 1830 hrs. 146.910
Mosquito-Wednesdays at 1900 hrs. 28.333
Traders-Fridays at 2000 hrs 146.910

David KG0KE & Susan KB0PQS were special guests. From Minnesota, they have lived on a boat for the past 8 years, but are now living in Canaveral Groves.

Bud thanked all who participated in Field Day. He said, " we didn't make a lot of points, but we had a wonderful time".

Stephanie K4MVO mentioned how much fun it was working with the young people on the air at Field Day. She also showed pictures of Field Day, and a video made at Field day.

July

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P. O. BOX 73
TITUSVILLE FL 32781-0073

VACATION! SOON?

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE
Total membership: 221 (150 regular, 53 family, 12 honorary, 6 other)

NEW MEMBER:
WA0VED JAMES WOODRING
KG4AHL JEANNIE WOODRING
KG4IMO JASON WOODRING

RENEWALS:
KE4AGM RICHARD LASURE
KE4BBJ CHARLIE PROSSER
KE4BBK ORA PROSSER
KV4BY CLARENCE BAUER
K4CWG BUD HUGHES
KU4ZO SHERRY HUGHES
KD4EYR JUNE ROLL
W4LOV MIKE HENSLEY
W9LSD DICK DUEL
KE4MXJ PEDRO LORENZO
KE4YQF MARY LORENZI
W4NMB HOLLAND STARKEY
KU4NR CHUCK MANION
KF4FEY PENNY MANION
AD4PP JERRY MOSKOVITZ
KF4QIP MIKE ALBRO
KT4SY EDDIE GASS
KU4UD LEONARD ZBIEGIEN
KEVZPA JOHN RENNINGER
KF4LTY PAT RENNINGER

HAMFESTS:

7/21-22	MILTON
8/26	FT. PIERCE
9/9-10	MELBOURNE
9/24	NEW PORT RICHEY
9/30	DAYTONA BEACH
10/14	TAMPA
10/13-14	STARKE
10/14	SUNRISE
10/14-15	W.PALM BEACH
10/28	JACKSONVILLE

OK Bud @ 12/13/00